

C01-11

Integral and Integrated Passives Webbook Update - Part 1

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Objective: Complete an updated review of state-of-the-art integral and integrated passive technologies. Compare size, cost, and performance for systems constructed with and without integral or integrated passive components (resistors and capacitors). Develop guidelines for determining when and how it makes sense to include integral and/or integrated passives within a system (i.e., what system characteristics, if any, indicate the opportunity for cost savings through the use of integral or integrated passives).

Definitions

- **Discrete** individual surface mount or through-hole components that are assembled to substrates
- Integrated (networks, arrays) multiple passives fabricated in a single integrate circuit that does not contain active devices. Three integrated configurations are common:
 - *Isolated* (single row termination) all passives are electrically isolated from each other
 - Bussed all passives share a single common electrical connection
 - *Dual Termination* each connection is terminated through two networked passives to two different lines.

(Integrated passive components need not be confined to a single type of device, e.g., RC networks)

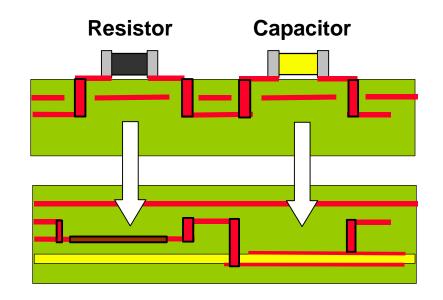
- On-Chip passives fabricated within an active integrated circuit
- **Integral** (buried, <u>embedded</u>) passives fabricated on one or more layers within a substrate.

Definitions

(Embedded Resistors and Capacitors)

Embedded resistors:

- Dedicated resistor layer (often two for symmetry) – Ohmega-Ply® approach
- Screening print a resistive material directly onto a wiring layer only where an embedded resistor is required



Embedded Capacitors:

- Bypass capacitors are embedded by dielectric substitution into an existing reference plane layer (as opposed to layer pair addition).
- Singulated embedded capacitors are fabricated via dedicated layer pair addition.

Potential Advantages of Embedded Passives

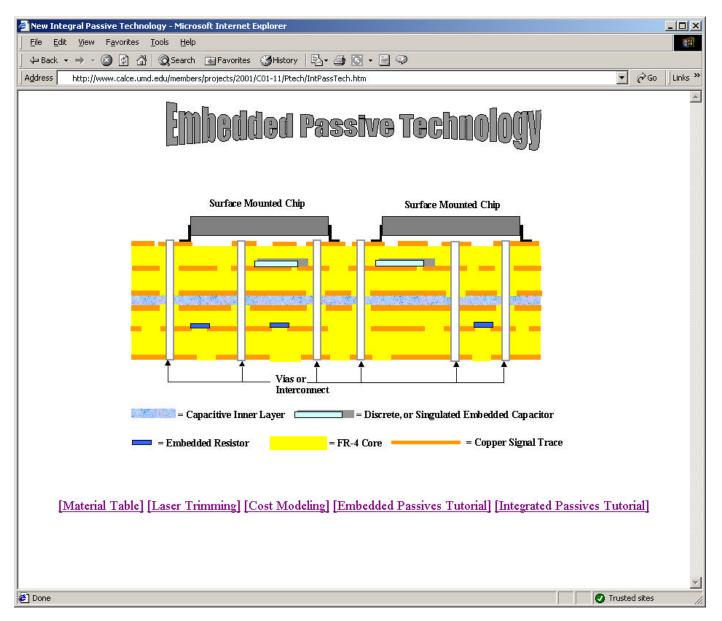
- Increased circuit density through saving real-estate on the substrate
- Improved electrical properties through additional termination and filtering opportunities and shortening electrical connections
- Cost reduction through decrease in board assembly operations
- Increased product quality through the elimination of incorrectly attached devices
- Improved reliability through eliminating solder joints

Embedded Passive Tradeoffs

- Board area decreases due to reduction in the in the number of discrete passive components
- Decreased wiring requirements due to the integration of resistors and bypass capacitors into the board
- Increased wiring density requirements due to the decreased size of the board
- Increased number of boards fabricated on a panel due to decreased board size
- Increased board cost per unit area
- Increased board fabrication waste
- Decreased board yield
- Decreased board fabrication throughput
- Decreased assembly cost
- Decreased overall assembly yield
- Decreased assembly level rework

DO EMBEDDED PASSIVES REDUCE SYSTEM COSTS?

... not a simple tradeoff



http://www.calce.umd.edu/members/projects/2001/C01-11/Ptech/IntPassTech.htm

Embedded Passive Materials

